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Rockwell Automation

To Attorney General Achcroft	From	Rich Ryan
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Rockwell Automation

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I would like to submit my support for the Microsoft settlement negotiated with the Justice Department last November. After the completion of this 60-day public comment period, it would only seem fair that the terms agreed upon with the help of a court mediator, be accepted and implemented.

The important role Microsoft plays in the IT industry should be appreciated. The agreement is a very generous deal that is far preferable than further action that would break up the company and further disrupt the PC industry.

Microsoft has agreed to share or license its intellectual property with its rivals and promote interoperability with its server software in the interest of fostering more competition in the software market. An independent committee will monitor its compliance with the settlement.

From my perspective as someone in the industry, this closely monitored plan will create a wider market for software products from a variety of competitors. Please make sure to commit to this opportunity and not make the mistake of continued litigation. Thank you for your time.

Rich Ryan, President Rockwell Software

